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Ddu o Eryri, who, although eclipsed by thousands in the field of literary renown, has left behind him many claims on the respect of his country. As a cultivator of her national muse, he had few rivals in the present day; as a man of general and useful information, he was singularly gifted for an individual in his humble sphere; and, in the other parts of his character, whatever may have been his peculiar failings, his general conduct and principles, if we are correctly informed, were, by no means, such, as now to throw any shade over his posthumous reputation.

EXCERPTA.

I. THE WENDI.

IN a former Number of the CAMBRO-BRITON* we alluded to some "curious documents" which we possessed concerning this people, called in Germany *Wenden*, but better known to us, where known at all, under the name above adopted. The following extract is one of the documents in question, and is taken from a periodical work, entitled "Memoirs of Literature," published in 1711, and, we believe, the first work of that nature ever undertaken in England. The publication contains another account, considerably longer than the following, and for which we hope to have room next month. In the mean time, what we now publish cannot fail, we think, to prove of interest, as affecting the presumed affinity of the Wendi with the ancient Cymry, and the more so, as the writer of the account does not appear to have been aware of the circumstance, and, consequently, could have had no hypothesis to support †.

* No. 27, p. 289.

† In the first volume of "The Berlin Miscellanies," or Report of the Royal Society of Berlin, published in 1710, there is a very interesting article, by the celebrated M. Leibnitz, on the use of languages towards discovering the origin of nations, in which he classes the Wendish tongue with the Slavonic, which agrees with the arrangement adopted in the Cambrian Register, vol. i. p. 19.

“ *To the Editor of the Memoirs of Literature.*”

“SIR,—I shall give you, in a few words, the information you desire about the people called *Wenden* (in Latin *Heneti*), that are to be seen still in some parts of Germany. The Slavonians, having made themselves masters of a great part of Lower Germany, as far as Bohemia, in the ninth and tenth centuries, were, at last, overcome by the governors of the frontiers. The *Heneti*, a branch of the Slavonians, were also engaged in many wars with the Germans, and, by degrees, reduced to a small number, and made tributary. Though most of them professed Christianity, as appears from a history of the Slavonians, written by Helmodus, a priest of that nation, yet they were very barbarous in their manners, and way of living. Those, that remain still in several villages of Lusatia and Brandenburg, and in the Duchy of Lumenburg, hate the Germans to this very day, and form a kind of nation distinct from them. I have seen those that live in Lusatia: their language is wholly different from the German, and they are so careful to preserve it, that one can hardly find one man among several families, that understands any thing of the German tongue. Their dress is also quite different, very odd, and almost ridiculous. As for what concerns their religion, they are generally Roman Catholics, and very zealous. In some few villages they profess the Lutheran religion. All of them have their own churches, not only in the villages, but also in Bautzen and Gorlitz, the two chief towns of Upper Lusatia, where divine service is performed in their own language. They have strange and ridiculous customs, and are very ignorant. Part of them are engaged in the service of the Lusatians; and those, who have something of their own, apply themselves to husbandry. They generally live in villages: those villages do not lie together, but in several parts among those of the Germans. The villages, inhabited by that people in Upper Lusatia, lie about Bautzen, Gorlitz, and Zittaw. There are some in Lower Lusatia, as far as Brandenburg. I must observe that the *Heneti*, that go by the name of *Wenden* in other parts of Germany, are called *Sorabians* in Lusatia, and their language *Sorabic*. It is well known, that the Sorabi were, formerly, inhabitants of Lusatia; and there is still a town in Lower Lusatia, called Sorau or Soravia.”